

CONNECTICUT SENTENCING COMMISSION

Research, Measurement & Evaluation Committee Meeting

Thursday, August 2, 2012

2:00 p.m.

New Haven Superior Court

235 Church St., New Haven

Lawyer's Lounge, 7th Floor

Members In Attendance: *Susan Pease (Co-Chair), Thomas Ullmann (Co-Chair), William Carbone, John Santa, Robert Farr*

Also Participating: *Sarah White (IMRP), David Rentler (BOPP), Bill Anselmo (CSSD), Alana Rosenberg (Yale), Brian Coco (CSSD)*

MINUTES

I. MEETING CONVENED

The meeting was called to order at approximately 2:15 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF APRIL 25, 2012

Susan Pease will e-mail the April 25, 2012 minutes to members for review.

III. CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON THE RISK ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENTS USED BY CSSD AND PAROLE

A hand-out was presented which included information on acute, static, and stable risk factors. Static factors are the best predictors of recidivism, while dynamic stable factors indicate individual risks that can change with treatment. Acute dynamic factors change rapidly and must be assessed every time the offender is seen for treatment. Committee members inquired as to how the results of risk assessments are used. Bill Anselmo responded that they are used as part of the LSI-R and case management process.

Susan Pease expressed that it is important to determine whether risk assessments accurately predict offender dangerousness. Bill Carbone explained that the answer seems to be yes because offense rates have decreased. He noted that the system is doing a good job at zeroing in on criminogenic and protective factors and addressing issues through interventions. Committee members then discussed using risk assessments at the time of sentencing.

IV. DISTRIBUTE AND REVIEW JUDGE SHORTALL'S E-MAIL REQUEST FOR DATA ON INCARCERATED OFFENDERS

The committee discussed Judge Shortall's request for data on incarcerated offenders.

CONNECTICUT SENTENCING COMMISSION

V. DISTRIBUTE AND DISCUSS PROPOSED PROCEDURES FOR SELECTION OF RESEARCH PROJECTS AND RESEARCHERS

A hand-out was provided which outlined the procedure for establishing working groups and determining principal researchers. These topics will be discussed at future meetings.

VI. SET UP A SCHEDULE FOR REGULAR MEETINGS

The next committee meeting was scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on September 13th at CSSD. Future committee meetings will be held on the third Thursday of every month.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

VIII. MEETING ADJOURNED

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:50 p.m.